

USDA-ARS SAA Gainesville Location

FY 2001 EEO/CR Activities and Commemorations

Science Education Outreach Activities in FY 2001

The EEO committee encourages and sponsors activities that increase awareness of ARS career opportunities by minority students and enhance ARS workforce diversity. Activities in FY 2001 include:

- **University of Florida, Junior Science, Engineering, and Humanities Symposium, February 5, 2001, Gainesville, FL**

The USDA-ARS Center for Medical, Agricultural and Veterinary Entomology (CMAVE)

participated with the University of Florida in a [tour](#) of research laboratories

- **Florida Local, Regional, and State Science and Engineering Fairs**

12/05/00, Spring Hill Middle School, High Springs, FL.

Judges: *Ulrich Bernier, Everett Foreman*

12/07/00, Lincoln Middle School, Gainesville, FL.

Judge: *Uli Bernier*

12/14/00, Oak View Middle School, Newberry, FL.

Judges: *Ulrich Bernier, Everett Foreman, Paul Kendra, Paul Shirk, Genie White*

12/14/00, Newberry High School, Newberry, FL.

Judges: *Terry Arbogast, Jimmy Becnel, Jerry Hogsette, Paul Shirk, Bob Vander Meer, Dave Williams*

02/14/01, Alachua County Regional Fair, Gainesville, FL.

Judges: *Ulrich Bernier*

04/19/01, Florida State Science and Engineering Fair, Gainesville, FL.

Judges: *Ulrich Bernier, Jimmy Becnel, Nancy Epsky, Chris Geden, Everett Foreman, Jerry Hogsette, Robert Meagher, Jeffrey Shapiro, Robert Vander Meer, Genie White*

Note: The USDA Special Recognition Awards Program at the Florida State Science and Engineering Fair is organized by *Ulrich Bernier*, (352-374-5917) ubernier@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

- **Summer Programs**

During 2001, Summer, the Center for Medical, Agricultural, and Veterinary Entomology sponsored

High School Student Apprentices

Student	Supervisor
Kimberly Bass	Dr. Don Silhacek
Rena Bryan	Yasmin Cardosa
Charles Fletcher	Dr. David Oi
Dwayne McKnight	Dr. David Williams
Brett Miller	Dr. Richard Mankin
Alyce Nejame	Dr. Jerry Hogsette

Youth Employment Start (YES) Students

Student	Supervisor
Mwitzer Ansoanur	Dianne Underwood
Dorel Humphrey	Dr. Al Handler
Jakiesha Robinson	Dr. Robert Vander Meer

University of Florida Student Science Training Program Students

Student	Supervisor
Jeffrey Barrientos	Dr. Richard Mankin
Pooja Gupta	Dr. Robert Vander Meer
Ann Mary Joseph	Dr. Stephen Ferkovich
Rose Mikulski	Dr. Don Silhacek
Brandon Verblow	Dr. Stephen Ferkovich

University Student Interns

Student	Supervisor	Institution
Christy Copeland	Dr. Jesusa Legaspi	Florida A&M University*
Ranyelle Craig	Dr. Prem Chourey	Albany State University*
Melanie Gray	Dr. Terry Arbogast	University of Florida
Felicia Haynes	Dr. Robert Meagher	Florida A&M University*

Andrew Kao	Dr. Rui-de Xue	Williams College
Laura Parenteau	Dr. Don Silhacek	University of Florida
Erica Simbro	Dr. Eric Schmelz	Iowa State University

*historically African-American college

a. Minority high school students

Summer Apprentice Program (ARS funded)-3 female students, 3 minority students of 6 total students employed under this program (see above).

Youth Employment Start [YES] (½ funded by SFCC - ½ funded by ARS)-4 minority students, 1 female student of 4 total students employed under this program (see above).

Student Science Training [SSTP] (funded by UF)-3 minority students, 3 female students of 5 total students (see above).

Temporary Biological Aide-Maria Prado-IFAHI, female, minority

Temporary Biological Aide-Damion Flores-IFAHI, minority

SCEP-Mekelle Boyer-IFAHI, minority female

Temporary Biological Aide-CGERU (with Dr. Pring), female, minority

Temporary Biological Aide-CGERU (with Dr. Vu), female

b. Minority undergraduate students (see college student intern list above)

c. Minority graduate students

STEP-Ignacio Baez (FAMU) with Behavior and Biocontrol unit, hispanic.

STEP-Erika Yearby (FAMU) with Behavior and Biocontrol unit, female

SARE Grant-Yasmin Cardoza (Graduate Student) with Chemistry female, Hispanic.

Activities initiated during 2001 with 1890s Institutions

a. Proposal submitted to USDA-FAS and USDA-APHIS for collaborative project on the biological control of the pea leafminer in Guatemala. Effort is by the Behavior and Biocontrol unit and includes faculty at FAMU.

b. Dr. David Oi (IFAH) provided training on fire ants as part of grants funded by the Tennessee Nursery and Landscape Association and the National Biological Control Institute with Dr. Jason Oliver, Tennessee State University. Dr. Oi also continued research on fire ant pathogens with Dr. Ken Ward, Alabama A&M University.

c. Dr. Don Barnard (RL, MFRU) is the co-PI on a proposal, submitted in 2001, to study genetics of *Ochlerotatus triseriatus* mosquitoes with Dr. Jennifer Penrod of Lincoln University, Jefferson City, MO.

d. Dr. Jesusa Legaspi (of the Behavior and Biocontrol unit) is funded by a grant from a cooperative agreement between FAMU and the Department of the Interior-National Parks Service/South Florida Caribbean Ecosystems Studies Unit to develop an IPM plan for the National Park Service at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site.

e. Dr. Jesusa Legaspi (Behavior and Biocontrol) submitted proposals (Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems and USDA-ARS Postdoctoral Research Associate Program) that involve the FAMU Cooperative Extension Service.

Minorities and Females hired during FY 2001 in permanent SY/Research Scientist, Research Associate/Post-Doc, Technician and Administrative positions

a. Permanent SY Scientists hired:
Jesusa (Susie) Legaspi (Behavior and Biocontrol at FAMU) Research Entomologist (GS-12/8), hired 1/14/2001. Female, Asian or Pacific Islander.

Rodney N. Nagoshi (Behavior and Biocontrol), Research Genetist (Insects) (GS-12/10), hired 5/6/2001. Male, Asian or Pacific Islander.

b. Research Associates/Assistants Hired
Roberto M. Pereira (Imported Fire Ant) Research Entomologist (GS-12/4), Hired 4/29/2001, Male, Hispanic.

c. Technicians Hired

Behavior & Biocontrol-Ignacio Baez hired as Biological Technician

Chemistry-Barbara Deuben promoted to Cat. III Scientist, female

IFAHI-Damali Kelly hired as temporary FT Biological Technician,
minority female

IFAHI-Susan Reidel hired as temporary FT Biological Technician,
female

d. Administrative Positions Hired

Maintenance Helper-Asbury Woods, BM

STEP OA Clerk/Safety-Ernest Jackson, BM

e. Foreign Visiting Scientists

MFRU-2 South American, 1 African

CGRU-2 Indian, 2 South American

Chemistry-4 South and Central American, 1 African, 1 Chinese

Commemorations in FY 2001

• **10/11/00 Hispanic Heritage Month**

10/11/00Seminar about Easter Island cultural and natural history by Jerry Hogsette

• **February 2001, Black History Month**

Commemoration of contributions to [agricultural research](#) by Florida A&M University
